

you said that you are not moving ahead rapidly, but you will let us know, and you will not do so until the Democrats are in the room. Frankly, Mr. Leader, our concern is, and the concern of Democrats has been, that once the Democrats get back in the room it moves exceedingly rapidly, without really an opportunity for Democrats to make substantive contributions, whether they win or lose in the conference.

I yield to my friend.

Mr. BOEHNER. I thank my colleague for yielding.

Now, as the gentleman is well aware, I believe that all of us were elected by our constituents, regardless of what side of the aisle we are on, and we all have a constitutional right and duty to participate in this legislative process; and the gentleman is well aware that there were a lot of conferences that I and members of my party never saw before they were completed. And as the gentleman is well aware, there are times when having the right people in the room is important. And every bill is different.

So on the pension bill particularly, as I said, I have talked to Members on your side of the aisle, I have talked to Democrats in the Senate as well, and I would hope that sometime soon you will see Members, more Members, brought into the room to try to help move this process along.

Mr. HOYER. I appreciate the comments of the majority leader, and I have confidence that he will work towards that end, and we look forward to it. I thank the gentleman for both his information and for his concerns about doing it in that fashion.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY,  
APRIL 3, 2006, AND HOUR OF  
MEETING ON TUESDAY, APRIL 4,  
2006

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday next, and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 4, 2006 for morning hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR  
WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON  
WEDNESDAY NEXT.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

#### AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR CON- SIDERATION OF CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules may meet the week of April 3 to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of the concurrent resolution on the budget for the fiscal year 2007. The Committee on the Budget ordered the concurrent resolution reported late last night.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Rules Committee in Room H-312 of the Capitol by 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 4, 2006. Members are advised that the text of the concurrent resolution should be made available on the Budget and the Rules Committees Web sites no later than March 31, Friday. As in past years, the Rules Committee intends to give priority to amendments offered as complete substitutes.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate format and should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

#### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO CONGRESSIONAL AWARD BOARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 803(a) of the Congressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Education Act (2 U.S.C. 803(a)), and the order of the House of December 18, 2005, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to the Congressional Award Board:

Mr. CHOCOLA, Indiana

□ 1500

#### WELCOME HOME, RANDAL MCCLOY

(Mrs. CAPITO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Randal McCloy back to his home in Simpson, West Virginia. Randal was one of the 13 miners trapped in the Sago mine on January 2 and was the lone survivor. He suffered severe injuries to his heart, lungs, and kidneys and was in a coma for several weeks due to a lack of oxygen during the 40 hours he was trapped below the surface.

With all of the sadness West Virginians have experienced in the coal fields this year, today we can rejoice that Randal has recovered enough to leave the rehabilitative hospital and return home to his family and friends.

West Virginians have come together over the past 3 months to offer prayers and support for the families of those who have lost loved ones. The families of the Sago miners have made our

State proud, advocating for increased mine safety tools to help ensure other families do not experience the tragedy they have endured.

But today is the McCloys' day. We continue to support Randal McCloy; his wife, Anna; and their children as their family's road to recovery continues, and we will always remember the sacrifice made by his 12 co-workers.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

#### IRAQ AND A COMMONSENSE BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, with this Congress blindly passing each and every one of the President's requests for more money for the war in Iraq, which is soon to exceed \$300 billion in total costs, the time is long overdue for a little common sense about how we spend the American people's money.

Earlier this month I introduced new legislation, the Common Sense Budget Act of 2006, legislation that puts some sanity back into the Nation's fiscal policy. This bill already has the support of more than 35 cosponsors.

It is beyond dispute that this administration, in tandem with the Republican Congress, has been, to put it mildly, less than fiscally responsible. And are they spending on the neediest Americans, those who need a hand up quite often just to make it from one day to the next? No, of course not. Instead, they fattened up the Pentagon and lavished wealthy special interests with subsidies and tax breaks.

Last fall's budget debate actually exposed the staggering hypocrisy of it all because the very same congressional majority that is responsible for the fiscal decadence of the last several years suddenly started lecturing about thrift and responsibility. They were shocked, shocked, that spending had been going on around here.

Federal money for Katrina reconstruction, they decided, had to be offset by budget cuts. Deficit spending is okay, apparently, when it comes to upper-bracket tax cuts, but not for poor people whose homes are under water.

Well, guess what they chose to cut. The social safety net: Medicaid, food stamps, public housing, students loans, and on and on. Just the kinds of programs that saved my life and my children's lives when I was a single mom on welfare 35 years ago. To help people on the gulf coast who lost everything, they took from the people who have virtually nothing. That is your Republican fiscal policy in a nutshell.